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Mexico

Honey

Mexico's Honey Industry Recovers

2000

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Report Highlights:

With a technically improved Mexican beekeeping industry and increased production, Mexico's exports of honey are projected to increase after last year's unusual drop.

Includes PSD changes: Yes

Includes Trade Matrix: Yes

Unscheduled Report

Mexico [MX1], MX

Honey Situation and Outlook: The forecast for Mexico's 2000 honey production is expected to increase to 56,844 metric tons, 2.75 percent above the previous year's revised production estimate, due to several factors such as the actions taken by producers and authorities to make the Mexican honey industry more profitable. Good weather, better programs to control African bees and improvements in combating outbreaks of Varroa Jacobsini, have contributed to this increase.

The production estimate for 1999 is revised downward by 3.9 percent to 55,359 MT, reflecting more current industry and official data. Mexico's principal honey-producing states are Yucatan, Jalisco, Campeche, Veracruz, Guerrero, Puebla, Quintana Roo y Chiapas whose combined production in 1999 accounted for 71 percent of the national total.

For 1999 and as a direct result from more accurate government information and producers' efforts to reduce Varroa disease, bee colony numbers have decreased to 1.8 million. Currently, beekeepers pursue joint ventures with horticultural and citrus growers who require pollination services in order to increase yields. Both types of producers are obtaining benefit from these arrangements since honey, vegetables and citrus are export commodities with attractive international prices. This activity, once unnoticeable, is expanding with enrollment reading 178,500 beehives throughout the country.

Good weather and improved pest control management are expected to improve 2000 honey yields, from 30.7 kilograms per hive in 1999 to 32.0 kilograms per hive in 2000. Despite the presence of Africanized honeybees, production has not been as adversely affected as in other countries infested with this strain of bees.

In 1999, around 36 percent of Mexico's honey production was exported, thus generating income of over US\$ 22 million. Of that, 60.6 percent went to Germany, 14.6 percent to the U.K. and 14.4 percent to the United States. For 2000, honey exports are forecasted to increase due to increased domestic supplies. Export prices for Mexican honey currently average U.S. \$1,100.00 per metric ton. Mexico exports most of its honey in 200 liter drums. Based on more accurate official data, the 1999 export estimate is revised downward by 46.1 percent. As of May 2000, honey exports reached 13,192 MT.

Mexico's 1999 imports continued to be higher than normal at 36.1 MT, of which 88.8 percent came from the United States. Most of these imports were packed product for use in gourmet restaurants without a significant presence in the local market due to its high cost. China, the United States's closest competitor, accounted for 6.47 percent of imports. (See table 4)

The Mexican honey industry is targeting foreign markets because of positive production trend and potential benefits Mexico's Free Trade Agreement with the European union. With help from SAGAR's program "Alliance for the Countryside" this sector assisted traditional producers to apply cutting edge technology, modernize equipment and infrastructure as well as to improve genetics.

Domestic consumption is forecast to slightly increase in 2000. Per capita demand is forecast to increase to about 400 grams, which is twice the world average. While direct consumption accounts 52 percent of the domestic consumption, use in the food, cosmetic and tobacco industries accounts for 48 percent

according to SAGAR's market survey. The 1999 consumption estimate is revised upward due to more recent information indicating diminished exports and increased production.

Mexico is currently not a large market for imported honey due to consumption patterns and the availability of domestic supply. However, U.S. honey is well positioned to gain in specialized market niches, such as bottled honey for use in top-end restaurants in tourist resorts and areas.

SECTION II. STATISTICAL TABLES**PS&D, Honey**

| PSD Table | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Country | Mexico | | | | | |
| Commodity | Honey | | (1000 COLONIES)(MT) | | | |
| | Revised1998 | | Preliminary1999 | | Forecast2000 | |
| | Old | New | Old | New | Old | New |
| Market Year Begin | 01/1998 | | 01/1999 | | 01/2000 | |
| Commercial Colonies | 2100 | 1775 | 2000 | 1800 | 0 | 1800 |
| NonCommercial Colonies | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL Colonies | 2100 | 1775 | 2000 | 1800 | 0 | 1800 |
| Beginning Stocks | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Production | 56061 | 55297 | 57500 | 55323 | 0 | 56844 |
| Imports | 0 | 32 | 0 | 36 | 0 | 36 |
| TOTAL SUPPLY | 56061 | 55329 | 57500 | 55359 | 0 | 56880 |
| Exports | 26322 | 26330 | 29000 | 19838 | 0 | 22000 |
| Domestic Consumption | 29739 | 28999 | 28500 | 35521 | 0 | 34880 |
| Ending Stocks | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL DISTRIBUTION | 56061 | 55329 | 57500 | 55359 | 0 | 56880 |

Table 1
Mexican Honey Production by State
1992 to 1999
(Metric Tons)

| State | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Aguascalientes | 150 | 208 | 257 | 177 | 194 | 159 | 249 | 26 |
| Baja California | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 198 | 132 | 234 |
| Baja California Sur | 127 | 145 | 197 | 212 | 250 | 201 | 187 | 175 |
| Campeche | 6,001 | 5,454 | 4,050 | 3,706 | 3,213 | 2,950 | 4,799 | 4,397 |
| Coahuila | 193 | 145 | 150 | 164 | 65 | 163 | 68 | 76 |
| Colima | 1,162 | 1,065 | 1,070 | 1,075 | 1,065 | 559 | 509 | 473 |
| Chiapas | 2,965 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,050 | 3,146 | 2,674 | 2,893 | 3,112 |
| Chihuahua | 434 | 774 | 449 | 218 | 364 | 638 | 320 | 480 |
| Mexico City | 114 | 114 | 100 | 70 | 197 | 113 | 185 | 100 |
| Durango | 261 | 449 | 390 | 302 | 505 | 464 | 221 | 361 |
| Guanajuato | 910 | 962 | 1,040 | 1,050 | 1,097 | 861 | 1,147 | 500 |
| Guerrero | 3,908 | 4,436 | 3,945 | 3,933 | 918 | 3,868 | 4,497 | 5,899 |
| Hidalgo | 1,670 | 1,605 | 1,729 | 1,312 | 1,290 | 1,223 | 1,093 | 972 |
| Jalisco | 6,972 | 7,718 | 7,304 | 4,344 | 5,212 | 6,065 | 6,091 | 5,004 |
| Mexico | 1,200 | 851 | 834 | 794 | 793 | 801 | 814 | 829 |
| Michoacan | 2,020 | 1,887 | 1,816 | 1,708 | 1,786 | 1,976 | 1,591 | 1,812 |
| Morelos | 750 | 600 | 687 | 475 | 181 | 541 | 900 | 885 |
| Nayarit | 873 | 639 | 571 | 463 | 515 | 563 | 509 | 655 |
| Nuevo Leon | 527 | 525 | 491 | 500 | 502 | 430 | 420 | 420 |
| Oaxaca | 2,449 | 2,479 | 2,494 | 2,011 | 2,598 | 1,837 | 1,776 | 2,039 |
| Puebla | 2,357 | 2,333 | 2,354 | 2,001 | 2,269 | 2,939 | 3,207 | 2,200 |
| Queretaro | 271 | 374 | 390 | 185 | 141 | 98 | 115 | 117 |
| Quintana Roo | 3,000 | 2,910 | 2,550 | 2,700 | 2,640 | 3,888 | 2,941 | 3,164 |
| San Luis Potosi | 1,534 | 1,249 | 1,288 | 1,052 | 1,390 | 964 | 900 | 982 |
| Sinaloa | 2,184 | 1,920 | 1,538 | 942 | 682 | 912 | 1,165 | 1,413 |
| Sonora | 957 | 807 | 781 | 805 | 920 | 691 | 808 | 530 |
| Tabasco | 450 | 372 | 328 | 244 | 80 | 86 | 118 | 114 |
| Tamaulipas | 993 | 884 | 632 | 786 | 760 | 706 | 630 | 609 |
| Tlaxcala | 201 | 250 | 454 | 236 | 335 | 335 | 362 | 371 |
| Veracruz | 3,701 | 4,952 | 5,000 | 4,146 | 4,458 | 4,592 | 4,658 | 5,669 |
| Yucatan | 12,870 | 10,642 | 8,638 | 8,400 | 9,250 | 10,302 | 9,615 | 9,980 |
| Zacatecas | 2,682 | 2,224 | 1,905 | 2,167 | 2,164 | 1,884 | 2,377 | 1,725 |
| Total | 63,886 | 61,973 | 56,432 | 49,228 | 49,180 | 53,681 | 55,297 | 55,323. |

Source: Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development (SAGAR)

| Table 2 Mexico's Honey Exports (U.S. Dollars and Kgs.) -Calendar Year- | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Country | 1999 | | 2000* | |
| | Value | Volume | Value | Volume |
| Germany | 13,793,220 | 12,036,822 | 9,020,845 | 8,557,301 |
| U.S.A. | 3,033,090 | 2,860,497 | 1,599,479 | 1,266,074 |
| U.K. | 2,964,773 | 2,898,713 | 1,364,045 | 1,325,779 |
| Switzerland | 556,843 | 422,712 | 217,948 | 192,457 |
| Belgium | 417,524 | 322,297 | 155,433 | 95,475 |
| Venezuela | 366,832 | 303,440 | 229,395 | 169,944 |
| Puerto Rico | 321,528 | 230,522 | 171,621 | 127,954 |
| Philippines | 211,956 | 144,092 | 53,040 | 40,800 |
| Italy | 207,208 | 125,580 | 69,554 | 42,154 |
| Bahamas | 102,392 | 137,209 | 0 | 0 |
| Saudi Arabia | 97,014 | 57,581 | 1,052,959 | 880,500 |
| Guatemala | 82,327 | 87,760 | 0 | 0 |
| Canada | 76,438 | 51,376 | 158,339 | 122,208 |
| Panama | 58,149 | 51,511 | 12,385 | 9,908 |
| Netherlands | 57,242 | 42,843 | 0 | 0 |
| Austria | 32,382 | 20,239 | 77,974 | 63,000 |
| Japan | 31,197 | 19,487 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 33,165 | 24,841 | 374,803 | 298,932 |
| Total | 22,443,280 | 19,837,522 | 14,557,820 | 13,192,486 |

Source: 1993,2000 Global Trade Information Services. World Trade Atlas.

Mexico Edition. May, 2000

*figures as of 05/31/00

| Table 3 Mexico's Honey Imports (U.S. Dollars and Kgs.) -Calendar Year- | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| Country | 1999 | | 2000* | |
| | Value | Volume | Value | Volume |
| U.S.A. | 44,934 | 29,161 | 14,923 | 4,866 |
| China | 25,144 | 2,335 | 8,756 | 870 |
| Switzerland | 18,166 | 2,201 | 5,924 | 815 |
| Austria | 7,270 | 1,075 | 6,201 | 924 |
| Brazil | 3,422 | 400 | 1,739 | 200 |
| France | 2,901 | 792 | 1,885 | 570 |
| New Zealand | 284 | 87 | 95 | 299 |
| Total | 102,121 | 36,051 | 39,523 | 8,544 |

Source: 1993,2000 Global Trade Information Services. World Trade Atlas.

Mexico Edition. May, 2000

*figures as of 05/31/00

| Table 4 Mexico's Honey Consumption 1992 to 1999 (1,000 Metric Tons) | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 |
| Consumption | 27 | 26 | 26 | 24 | 22 | 31 | 30 | 35 |
| Production | 64 | 62 | 56 | 49 | 48 | 54 | 55 | 55 |
| Imports | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Exports | 37 | 36 | 30 | 26 | 27 | 23 | 26 | 20 |
| Consumption per Capita (Kgs,) | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 |

Source: Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development (SAGAR)

